

## CLAIMS

### WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1                   1.     A holder suitable for holding name badges, comprising:
  - 2                   (a)     a platform formed of a single sheet of thin, flexible,
    - 3 thermoformed plastic material, the platform including a top wall, the top
    - 4 wall having an exterior peripheral edge and the top wall comprising a
    - 5 plurality of integrally formed receptacles disposed below the top wall,
    - 6 each receptacle comprising
      - 7                   (1)     a peripheral edge having a width and a length
      - 8 and defining a slot in the top wall;
      - 9                   (2)     a first receptacle wall extending down from the
      - 10 top wall along a first edge of the peripheral edge to a first depth below
      - 11 the top wall;
      - 12                   (3)     a second receptacle wall extending down from
      - 13 the top wall along a second edge of the peripheral edge to a second depth
      - 14 below the top wall, the second depth less than or equal to the first depth;
      - 15 and
      - 16                   (4)     a bottom connecting the first receptacle wall to
      - 17 the second receptacle wall, the width defined by the distance across the
      - 18 slot between the first receptacle wall and the second receptacle wall, the
      - 19 length defined by the distance across the slot in the direction
      - 20 perpendicular to the width;
    - 21                   (b)     a cover formed of the single sheet of thin, flexible,
    - 22 thermoformed plastic material, the cover comprising
      - 23                   (1)     a ceiling;

24                   (2)     a cover support integrally formed with the  
25 ceiling and extending downward from the ceiling to form an opening with  
26 a cover interior peripheral edge generally matching the exterior peripheral  
27 edge of the top wall; and

28                   (3)     a cover flange integrally formed with the cover  
29 support and extending outward from the cover support; and

30                   (c)     a hinge, the cover flange integrally formed with the  
31 platform along the hinge whereby the cover can be swung from an open  
32 position to a closed position about the hinge.

1                   2.     The holder of claim 1 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2 reinforcement rib extending from a first edge of the ceiling to a second  
3 edge of the ceiling, the second edge opposed to the first edge.

1                   3.     The holder of claim 1 wherein cut score lines extend  
2 partially through the thickness of the hinge to easily detach the cover  
3 from the platform along the hinge.

1                   4.     The holder of claim 3 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2 reinforcement rib extending from a first edge of the ceiling to a second  
3 edge of the ceiling, the second edge opposed to the first edge.

1                   5.     The holder of claim 3 wherein for each receptacle the  
2 first receptacle wall has an integrally formed first protrusion to narrow the  
3 width at the first protrusion.

1                   6.     The holder of claim 5 wherein for each receptacle the  
2 second receptacle wall has an integrally formed second protrusion to  
3 narrow the width at the second protrusion.

1                   7.     The holder of claim 6 wherein the first protrusion and  
2     the second protrusion narrow the width at a common distance along the  
3     length.

1                   8.     The holder of claim 7 wherein the common distance is  
2     at a midpoint of the length.

1                   9.     The holder of claim 7 wherein the common distance is  
2     offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length.

1                   10.    The holder of claim 9 wherein for each receptacle the  
2     first receptacle wall has an integrally formed third protrusion at a distance  
3     offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the  
4     midpoint opposite that of the first protrusion and the second receptacle  
5     wall has an integrally formed fourth protrusion at a distance offset from  
6     the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the midpoint  
7     opposite that of the second protrusion.

1                   11.    A holder suitable for holding name badges, comprising:

2                   (a)    a platform formed of a single sheet of thin, flexible,  
3     thermoformed plastic material, the platform including a top wall, the top  
4     wall having a generally rectangular shaped exterior peripheral edge and  
5     the top wall comprising a plurality of integrally formed receptacles  
6     disposed below the top wall, each receptacle comprising

7                               (1)    a peripheral edge having a width and a length  
8     and defining a slot in the top wall;

9                               (2)    a first receptacle wall extending down from the  
10    top wall along a first edge of the peripheral edge to a first depth below  
11    the top wall;

12                   (3)     a second receptacle wall extending down from  
13 the top wall along a second edge of the peripheral edge to a second depth  
14 below the top wall, the second depth less than or equal to the first depth;  
15 and

16                   (4)     a bottom connecting the first receptacle wall to  
17 the second receptacle wall, the width defined by the distance across the  
18 slot between the first receptacle wall and the second receptacle wall, the  
19 length defined by the distance across the slot in the direction  
20 perpendicular to the width;

21                   (b)     a cover formed of the single sheet of thin, flexible,  
22 thermoformed plastic material, the cover comprising

23                             (1)     a generally rectangular ceiling;

24                             (2)     a front cover wall integrally formed with the  
25 ceiling and descending downward in a generally perpendicular direction  
26 from the ceiling;

27                             (3)     a right cover wall integrally formed with the  
28 front cover wall and the ceiling and descending downward in a generally  
29 perpendicular direction from the ceiling;

30                             (4)     a back cover wall integrally formed with the  
31 right cover wall and the ceiling and descending downward in a generally  
32 perpendicular direction from the ceiling;

33                             (5)     a left cover wall integrally formed with the back  
34 cover wall, the front cover wall, and the ceiling and descending  
35 downward in a generally perpendicular direction from the ceiling; and

36                             (6)     a cover flange integrally formed with the right  
37 cover wall and extending outward in a generally perpendicular direction  
38 from the right cover wall, and

39                   (c)     a hinge, the cover flange integrally formed with the  
40 platform along the hinge whereby the cover can be swung from an open  
41 position to a closed position about the hinge.

1                   12.     The holder of claim 11 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2 reinforcement rib extending from the front cover wall to the back cover  
3 wall.

1                   13.     The holder of claim 11 wherein cut score lines extend  
2 partially through the thickness of the hinge to easily detach the cover  
3 from the platform along the hinge.

1                   14.     The holder of claim 13 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2 reinforcement rib extending from the front cover wall to the back cover  
3 wall.

1                   15.     The holder of claim 13 wherein for each receptacle the  
2 first receptacle wall has an integrally formed first protrusion to narrow the  
3 width at the first protrusion.

1                   16.     The holder of claim 15 wherein for each receptacle the  
2 second receptacle wall has an integrally formed second protrusion to  
3 narrow the width at the second protrusion.

1                   17.     The holder of claim 16 wherein the first protrusion and  
2 the second protrusion narrow the width at a common distance along the  
3 length.

1                   18.    The holder of claim 17 wherein the common distance  
2    is at a midpoint of the length.

1                   19.    The holder of claim 17 wherein the common distance  
2    is offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length.

1                   20.    The holder of claim 19 wherein for each receptacle the  
2    first receptacle wall has an integrally formed third protrusion at a distance  
3    offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the  
4    midpoint opposite that of the first protrusion and the second receptacle  
5    wall has an integrally formed fourth protrusion at a distance offset from  
6    the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the midpoint  
7    opposite that of the second protrusion.

1                   21.    A holder suitable for holding name badges, comprising:

2                   (a)    a platform formed of a single sheet of thin, flexible,  
3    thermoformed plastic material, the platform comprising

4                               (1)    a top wall, the top wall having an exterior  
5    peripheral edge and the top wall comprising a plurality of integrally formed  
6    receptacles disposed below the top wall, each receptacle comprising

7                                       (i)    a peripheral edge having a width and a  
8    length and defining a slot in the top wall;

9                                       (ii)   a first receptacle wall extending down  
10   from the top wall along a first edge of the peripheral edge to a first depth  
11   below the top wall;

12                                      (iii)   a second receptacle wall extending down  
13   from the top wall along a second edge of the peripheral edge to a second  
14   depth below the top wall, the second depth less than or equal to the first  
15   depth; and

16 (iv) a bottom connecting the first receptacle  
17 wall to the second receptacle wall, the width defined by the distance  
18 across the slot between the first receptacle wall and the second  
19 receptacle wall, the length defined by the distance across the slot in the  
20 direction perpendicular to the width;

21 (2) a support integrally formed with the top wall  
22 along the exterior peripheral edge of the top wall and extending  
23 downward from the top wall to a depth greater than or equal to the first  
24 depth; and

25 (3) a flange integrally formed with and extending  
26 outward from the support;

27 (b) a cover formed of the single sheet of thin, flexible,  
28 thermoformed plastic material, the cover comprising

29 (1) a ceiling;

30 (2) a cover support integrally formed with the  
31 ceiling and extending downward from the ceiling to form an opening with  
32 a cover interior peripheral edge generally matching the exterior peripheral  
33 edge of the top wall; and

34 (3) a cover flange integrally formed with the cover  
35 support and extending outward from the cover support; and

36 (c) a hinge, the cover flange integrally formed with the  
37 flange along the hinge whereby the cover can be swung from an open  
38 position to a closed position about the hinge.

1 22. The holder of claim 21 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2 reinforcement rib extending from a first edge of the ceiling to a second  
3 edge of the ceiling, the second edge opposed to the first edge.

1                   23.   The holder of claim 21 wherein cut score lines extend  
2   partially through the thickness of the hinge to easily detach the cover  
3   from the platform along the hinge.

1                   24.   The holder of claim 23 wherein the ceiling includes a  
2   reinforcement rib extending from a first edge of the ceiling to a second  
3   edge of the ceiling, the second edge opposed to the first edge.

1                   25.   The holder of claim 23 wherein for each receptacle the  
2   first receptacle wall has an integrally formed first protrusion to narrow the  
3   width at the first protrusion.

1                   26.   The holder of claim 25 wherein for each receptacle the  
2   second receptacle wall has an integrally formed second protrusion to  
3   narrow the width at the second protrusion.

1                   27.   The holder of claim 26 wherein the first protrusion and  
2   the second protrusion narrow the width at a common distance along the  
3   length.

1                   28.   The holder of claim 27 wherein the common distance  
2   is at a midpoint of the length.

1                   29.   The holder of claim 27 wherein the common distance  
2   is offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length.

1                   30.   The holder of claim 29 wherein for each receptacle the  
2   first receptacle wall has an integrally formed third protrusion at a distance  
3   offset from the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the



4 midpoint opposite that of the first protrusion and the second receptacle  
5 wall has an integrally formed fourth protrusion at a distance offset from  
6 the midpoint by one-quarter of the length on the side of the midpoint  
7 opposite that of the second protrusion.